

EPIPHANY/ HOLY COMMUNION SUNDAY

01/03/2021

10:00 am

A special word of welcome to those visiting our church today. Please stand for acts of worship designated with an asterisk (*). Any who prefer may “rise up” in spirit only, if physically standing presents difficulties.

**GATHERING
CHIMES CALLING US TO PREPARE FOR WORSHIP**

PRELUDE “Now is Born the Divine Christ Child” Nancy Cook, Organist

Welcome and Announcements: Pastor

(The prayer station in the back of the sanctuary is available for lighting a candle or leaving a prayer note any time before, during, or after worship).

***CALL TO WORSHIP: ASCRIBE TO THE LORD...Leader and Congregation**

L: Ascribe to the Lord the glory of God’s name,

C: Worship the lord in Holy array

L: The voice of the Lord is powerful,

**UNISON: The voice of God is full of majesty. We will praise the name of our Lord!
Amen!**

***UM Hymn # 245**

The First Noel

INVITATION: COVENANT REWAL

Commit yourselves to Christ as his servants.

Give yourselves to him, that you may belong to him.

Christ has many services to be done.

Some are more easy and honorable,

others are more difficult and disgraceful.

Some are suitable to our inclinations and interests,

others are contrary to both.

In some we may please Christ and please ourselves.

But then there are other works where we cannot please Christ except by denying ourselves.

It is necessary, therefore,

that we consider what it means to be a servant of Christ.

Let us, therefore, go to Christ, and pray:

WESLEY’S COVENANT PRAYER (Modern Version)

I am no longer my own, but yours.

Put me to what you will, rank me with whom you will;

put me to doing, put me to suffering;

let me be employed for you, or laid aside for you,

exalted for you, or brought low for you;

let me be full,

let me be empty,

let me have all things,

let me have nothing:

I freely and wholeheartedly yield all things

to your pleasure and disposal.

And now, glorious and blessed God,

Father, Son and Holy Spirit,

you are mine and I am yours. So be it.

And the covenant now made on earth, let it be ratified in heaven.

Amen.

APPROCHING THE LORD’S TABLE: Pastor and Congregation

Communion Music:

Praise Team

(TAKE YOUR OFFERING/TITHES TO NEAREST PLATES)

GOD’S WORD IN SCRIPTURE

SPECIAL MUSIC:

“Carols, Rejoice!”

Trevor McDonald , Soloist

Gospel:

Matthew 2: 1-12 (ESV)

WITNESSING TO THE WORD

THEME: “The Magi - “the first responders and what can we learn?”

MORNING PRAYER AND THE LORD'S PRAYER - Pastor

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name.

Thy kingdom come, thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven.

**Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our trespasses,
as we forgive those who trespass against us.**

And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.

For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory forever. Amen.

***UM Hymnal/FWS # 2153**

I'm Gonna Live So God Can Use Me

***SENDING FORTH IN GOD'S LOVE AND CARE: Pastor**

***POSTLUDE:**

Organist

Thank you for being a part of today's worship experience.

Rest assured God loves you, and so do we!

FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

745 Main Street - Racine, Wisconsin 53403

(262) 633-7632 (Church) - (262) 497- 4370 (Pastor's mobile)

Email: Racine1umc@gmail.com - Website: www.1umcracine.org

Pastor: Rev. Jakes Voker

Liza Taliaferro: Administrative Assistant

Nancy Cook: Organist/ Choir Director

Jeff Fernholz: Treasurer

Sue Mills: Parish Visitor

Jeanne Whiteside: Media Coordinator

Joy McClelland: Custodian

Dennis Clay: Pianist

APPROACHING THE LORD'S TABLE

Invitation: Our Lord invites to his table all who love him, and are truly sorry for their sins.

Pastor: The Lord be with you.

Cong: And also with you.

Pastor: Lift up your hearts.

Cong: We lift them up unto the Lord.

Pastor: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

Cong: It is right to give thanks and praise to our God.

Pastor: Let us now prepare our hearts for Christ's compassionate love to flow in us, so that through us the world might experience the transforming power of his redemptive work demonstrated on the cross for our sake.

Cong: Through repentance and humility, we open our hearts and offer ourselves to the transforming power of Christ's redeeming love.

Pastor: On the night before his betrayal and trial, Jesus shared one last meal with his disciples. What could he do to empower them to continue his redemptive work when he was gone back to heaven? Jesus loved his followers, and his heart went out to them. He took the bread, said a prayer to heaven, broke the bread, and gave it to his friends, saying: "Take, eat, this is my body broken for you!" After a while, Jesus took a cup of grape juice, said a prayer to heaven, and gave it to his friends, saying: "Drink from this, all of you; this is my blood of the new covenant poured out for you and for many." He instructed them to remember him whenever they eat of the bread and drink of the cup.

Cong: When we receive Christ's body, we are united with him in his mission. When we receive Christ's blood, we are assured of his forgiven grace that cleanses and sets us free from all guilt and are made right with our God and neighbors.

Pastor: The table is now ready, you may come and share!

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